

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to a Non-Final Office action dated June 4, 2007. Claims 1-29 were examined.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-12, 14-15, 18-25, and 27-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,594,245 to Rimhagen et al. (hereinafter, "Rimhagen") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,411,007 to Rodman et al. (hereinafter, "Rodman"). Claims 13 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rimhagen in view of Rodman, as applied to claims 1 and 15 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,427,075 to Burg et al. (hereinafter, "Burg"). Claims 16 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rimhagen in view of Rodman, as applied to claim 15 above, and further in view of U.S. Publication No 2003/0061422 to Repice et al. (hereinafter, "Repice").

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections above for the following reasons. With respect to claim 1, the Office action states that the WNC or hub of Rimhagen corresponds to the claimed centralized radio processing portion. Applicants respectfully disagree. Claim 1 recites that *in the centralized radio processing portion, compensating for a fixed delay associated with the transport medium coupling the centralized radio processing portion and one of the remote air interface radio portions in evaluating a time period corresponding to a variable delay between transmission by a mobile station and receipt of the transmission by the centralized radio processing portion.* There is no teaching in Rimhagen that any evaluation of a time period corresponding to a variable delay between transmission by a mobile and receipt by the centralized radio processing portion is performed. Rimhagen is silent on the issue. As pointed out in the instant specification in paragraph 1054, in prior art systems the base transceiver station was located in close proximity to the air interface with the mobile station so that the delay due to communication with the BTS could be neglected in timing calculations. Rimhagen teaches in col. 3, lines 34-37 that "the CSs 110, 135, 140 correspond to BSs (not shown)." Rimhagen also teaches at col. 3, lines 33-35 that a BS [base station] is associated with each CS. Conventionally, the base station (BS) associated with each CS would do the timing calculations. There is no teaching to the contrary in Rimhagen. In fact, Rimhagen teaches that WNC is a mobile

switching center (MSC), not a base station. See col. 3, lines 41-45. Thus, applicants respectfully submit that Rimhagen fails to teach at least *in the centralized radio processing portion, compensating for a fixed delay associated with the transport medium coupling the centralized radio processing portion and one of the remote air interface radio portions in evaluating a time period corresponding to a variable delay between transmission by a mobile station and receipt of the transmission by the centralized radio processing portion.*

Applicants further note that with respect to the hub 415 in Fig. 4 of Rimhagen, the reference expressly teaches that the propagation delays are negligible, since the distances are short, so the timing advance issues are eliminated. There is no teaching that any timing issues need to be evaluated in the embodiment in Fig. 4. See col. 7, lines 9-11.

Since Rimhagen fails to teach that the claimed time periods are evaluated in the centralized radio portion, and Rodman fails to make up for that deficiency, applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 and all claims dependent thereon distinguish over Rimhagen and Rodman, alone or in combination. Note that claim 2 the evaluating of the time period determines a time out period associated with a mobile call and in claim 3 the evaluating is for adjusting transmission timing of the mobile station.

Similarly, claim 15 recites that *the host processing part [is] configured to determine a time interval between transmission by a mobile station in communication with the remote air interface part (RH) and receipt of the transmission at the host processing part.* Rimhagen fails to teach that task being performed in WNC 105 or hub 415. Accordingly, applicants submit that claim 15 distinguishes over Rimhagen and Rodman.

Claim 27 has been amended to recite *means, in the host processing part, for evaluating a timing period associated with transmission of the communication from the mobile station to the host processing part and for compensating when performing the evaluating, for a fixed delay associated with a transport medium coupling the host processing part and a remote radio interface part that receives the communication from the mobile station and forwards the communication over the transport medium to the host processing part.* For similar reasons to that pointed out above, neither Rimhagen nor Rodman, alone or in combination, teaches the recited means for evaluating and for compensating.

Stylistic amendments have been made to claim 15 and minor errors corrected in claims 1 and 5.

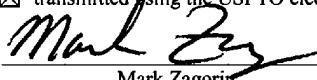
New claim 30 has been added to recite features of the invention described, e.g., in paragraph 1053.

In summary, claims 1-30 are in the case. All claims are believed to be allowable and a Notice of Allowance to that effect is respectfully solicited. Nonetheless, if any issues remain that could be more efficiently handled by telephone, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the number listed below.

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